Afghanistan December 19, 2005 CECOMO Watch Combined Forces Command - Afghanistan Airmen keep Kandahar Airfield fully operational Page 6



Department of Defense personnel and soldiers from the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team examine a tanker that crashed into the bed of the Bamyan River.

Photo by Staff Sgt.Tim Rowe Public Relations Officer, New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team

Cover: Air Force Staff Sgt. Jessie Butikofer, structural journeyman, 451st Air Expeditionary Group Civil Engineer Flight, puts the finishing touches on the foundation for a radar tower at Kandahar Airfield

Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald

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Air Force core values still matter

By Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley

Command chief master sergeant, Pacific Air Forces

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii - The core is the center, the very foundation, the inmost and most intimate part of a thing. The core is the heart of the matter.

When we joined the Air Force, we became part of a unique culture, and its foundation is our core values, central to all we do and all we are: integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do. Our Air Force culture and these core values give us a design not only for duty but for our whole lives.

The core values apply everywhere, all the time. As Airmen in the world's greatest air and space force, we represent the Air Force. We are Airmen whether we're at our home station or deployed on a temporary duty assignment.

The old notion that "what goes TDY, stays TDY" is simply that: a useless, outdated notion. It has no place in today's Air Force. The senior leaders of the United States and the Air Force across the board work hard to establish and maintain cordial relationships with our allies around the world. As guests in those countries where we are TDY, we must be aware that our behavior can affect our relationships with the people of those countries - for better or

When we were kids, our parents always cautioned us to "be on our best behavior" when we were guests anywhere. We're adults now, responsible for our own behavior. And if we follow the core values, we are always on our best behavior.

Most Airmen live the core values on a daily basis. But it only takes a few - choosing to ignore those principles - to damage the public perception of the Air Force and, possibly, even the

United States. Whether we are TDY to Texas, Turkey, India or Iraq, we are the Air Force.

When you're TDY, your performance off duty is as important as your performance on duty. Your actions while TDY can affect your squadron, your wing, your major command and the Air Force as a whole - in addition to your family and your career.

If you still have the perception that you can relax your moral standards when you are TDY, you need to take a good, hard look at yourself. The Air Force has no room for you on its team.

Team members look out for each other. Airmen take care of Airmen. It's the wingman concept - the confidence that we are not flying alone. Someone else is looking out for us to keep us on track and out of trouble.

The wingman concept stretches from top to bottom - it means commanders and supervisors at all levels being fully engaged with their Airmen, not only at home but at TDY locations as well. It means setting the right example, whether you're an airman basic or a general.

You have a responsibility, not only to yourself but to your coworkers and the Air Force, to be a good wingman.

Let me re-emphasize that most of our Airmen already take the core values to heart. Integrity, service and excellence are simply part of their daily lives - at the core of who they are.

But when even one of our Airmen misbehaves while TDY, it can affect the public perception of the entire Air Force.

We can't afford to let that happen. Ever. When you're TDY in an unfamiliar place, take a buddy with you when you're going out. Be aware of yourself and look out for each other. Be a good Airman and you will be a good wingman too. And that's the heart of the matter.



PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

Army military policeman Sgt. Jimmy Wise and military police dog Dino exit living quarters after conducting a health-and-welfare inspection.

Photo by Army Sgt. 1st Class Curtis Matsushige, Task Force Devil Public Affairs

If you have high-quality photos of service members supporting the Coalition mission or enjoying well-deserved off-duty time, please e-mail them to freedomwatch@baf.afgn.army.mil. Please include full identification and caption information, including who is in the photo and what action is taking place.

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Afghans help fellow Afghans, deliver blankets, clothing

By Army Sgt. **Benjamin Donde** 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan - On the surface, it appeared to be an act of good will and charity to a people who need it the most during a season when they're needed the most.

But under the surface, much more was going on. The new government was taking the vital first steps to assure its people that it will be there for them, an idea that has been foreign here for

"Afghan people helping Afghan people is the theme," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Robert Roseman, of the Political Military Integration's ministry engagement team.

With the Afghan flag design, 7,000 blankets and several boxes of clothing were distributed by the Ministry of Refugee and Repatriation on Dec. 5 to 3,000 Afghan families displaced to a

village on the outskirts of Kabul.

The blankets were obtained by Roseman and his team. "Getting blankets is easy," he said. "Engaging the ministry to store and haul and coordinate the distribution of the blankets with the refugee families is the real success here."

The ministry engagement team's main effort is to come along side ministry officials to mentor, guide and assist them in doing their job, Roseman said.

"What was good about today was the ministry really took the ball and ran with it," he said. "They planned and coordinated well, and their success is our success."

The ministry planned, with the elders of the refugees, to give each family a voucher for a certain number of blankets for when they returned.

"The ministry's effort in coordinating the logistics really paid off, and the distribution went very smoothly," Roseman said.

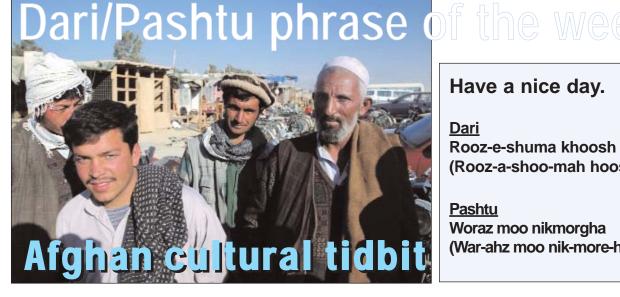
"We are very happy to be back in our own country," said refugee Malak Tourghul, the camp's elder. "We are very proud of our ministry and hope to be working with them in the future."

That's the plan, Roseman said. The ministry is preparing to help 27 different refugee camps in the Kabul area in the same way.

From a strategic point of view, an endeavor like this is crucial for the stabilization and security of the country, he said. Refugee camps typically make good recruitment camps for terrorists because they can prey on people who have been left out in the cold, literally, by their own government to get them on board with their organization.

"The Ministry of Refugee and Repatriation has taken a step in the right direction to prevent that from happening," Roseman said.

An act of good will and charity -3,000 refugee families will be a lot warmer this winter. But as they wrap themselves with the colors of their nation's flag this winter, hopefully they will remember it's their country keeping them warm.



Have a nice day.

Rooz-e-shuma khoosh (Rooz-a-shoo-mah hoosh)

Pashtu

Woraz moo nikmorgha (War-ahz moo nik-more-ha)

Afghan social occasions are predominantly family and extended family affairs. Picnics are important events on Fridays, the official government and religious holiday for Afghans. Many parties are for either male or female groups, and in rural areas of Afghanistan, if both genders are invited, they often participate separately.

Pearl Harbor remembered

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Ryan McGinley aboard the ship manned the rails. Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii - A ceremony was held on the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center waterfront lawn Dec. 7 to honor five surviving USS Ward Sailors and all those who served during the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

More than 1,500 people attended the solemn ceremony, which featured a 21-gun salute by the Marine Corps 3rd Marine Regiment, an F-15 Eagle missing-man flyover by the Hawaii Air National Guard, and a Morning Colors Ceremony and the national anthem performed by a naval station ceremonial guard and the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band.

"It is a distinct honor and a humbling privilege to be here," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Mullen, keynote speaker for the ceremony. "I say 'humbling' because I know we stand in the company of men and women who remember this place not only as the beautiful paradise it is, but also as a bloody, unforgiving scene it once was. To all those here from that ... generation, we are in your debt for the freedoms we enjoy today."

During the ceremony, Daniel Martinez, National Park Service historian, gave an abbreviated account of the USS Ward's historic encounter with a Japanese submarine just before the air attack on Pearl Harbor, emphasizing their role in setting the tone for every service member's resilience and dedication during the war.

"The crew of USS Ward is representative of all who served during the attack on Pearl Harbor," he said. "Their legacy will always be remembered as those valiant few who were among the first to fight in the opening hours of a global conflict that would be known forever as World War II."

The Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee passed through the Adm. Bernard Clarey Bridge and rendered honors during the ceremony as Sailors stationed

"It is a privilege for USS Chafee and its Sailors to be a part of this ceremony to commemorate the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor," said Navy Cmdr. John M. Clausen, commanding officer of the Chafee. "Today's ceremony reminds each of us what an honor it is to serve. We must never forget to honor the service and sacrifice of those who answered our nation's call that day and (during) World War II."

Representatives of each of the five branches of the military, the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, the state of Hawaii, and various other veterans and patriotic organizations, made more than 30 wreath presentations at the visitors center and on the USS Arizona Memorial.

Hawaii's senior senator and Medal of Honor recipient Sen. Daniel Inouye, guest speaker for the ceremony, spoke of the steadfast determination of the armed forces and the American people after the attack, and its effect on the outcome of the war. "This spirit of America united and galvanized people; it gave us the strength in the face of adversity and made us unwilling to accept defeat," he said.

Mullen emphasized that although the Pearl Harbor attacks happened 64 years ago, the lessons, spirit and determination still ring true today in the ongoing fight against terrorism.

"It is difficult to stand here 64 years later on Dec. 7 and not think of another infamous day, of a surprise attack of terrible horrors and of a nation stirring to defend itself," he said. "The memories of Dec. 7 and Sept. 11 are etched in our souls. The images of smoke and twisted steel and human suffering often overpower us. But perhaps what is most common about the two days is the uncommon courage of those who were there, and their will to turn tragedy into triumph, defeat into victory, and war into lasting peace.

"On Sept. 11, it was as if the spirit of one generation instinctively passed to another," Mullen added. "Perhaps that is why this place still draws us. Because here America first became a target, and here America first fought back."

Enduring Voices

How do you feel about the state of national security in America?



John Butz, Joint Robotics Repair Facility "Ben Franklin said, 'people who sacrifice freedom for security deserve neither.' I don't think we don't deserve either, but that's how I feel."



Army Spc. Clint McVay, 1st Battalion, 114th Field **Artillery Battery** "We tend to be reactive. rather than proactive. We could have strengthened airport security before 9/11."



Army Maj. Richard Petersen, Joint Logistics Command "I think our country's in dan-

ger right now, to be honest. Although we're fighting terrorist forces overseas, they still have the ability to strike at our homeland."



Air Force Staff Sgt. Kathy Santiago, 455th **Expeditionary Logistics** Readiness Squadron "With us being here, it's keeping people in the states secure. I don't have to worry so much about my family back home."

Civil engineers help keep airfield in Kandahar fully operational

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - Since their arrival supporting Operation Enduring Freedom here, Air Force civil engineers have hit the ground running.

From repairing a 200-square-foot crater on the runway in less than an hour to making a previously substandard airfield fully operational, the 451st Air Expeditionary Group Civil Engineer Flight Airmen are helping take the fight to the terrorists.

"A fully operational airfield is essential in allowing us to project combat airpower and take the fight to those who would cause us harm," said Air Force Capt. Jason Riebel, flight commander, deployed here from Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

Reibel, a native of Grand Rapids, Mich., said there isn't an instruction manual for the many obstacles his Airmen face.

"My men have met every challenge and tackled every task put before them," he said. "They always find a way to make the mission happen despite having less people, equipment and supplies than would be expected."

Air Force Master Sgt. Jason Baker, flight superintendent, said his team has stepped up to each and every challenge that has come their way.

"I'm proud of all the hard work asked of these guys and all they've accomplished with what they've been given," said Baker, a native of Connersville, Ind., who's also deployed from Pope AFB. "In the Air Force, various specialties bring together their knowledge and expertise to accomplish the mission as a team. This has truly been the case during this deployment."

Baker relates his experiences here to playing in the biggest professional football game of the season.

"This is what we all train for - war," he said. "Just as professional football players prepare for the Super Bowl, we put into motion all that we've trained so hard for.

"We learn to change up plays during



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jessie Butikofer, structural journeyman, 451st Air Expeditionary Group Civil Engineer Flight, puts the finishing touches on the foundation for a radar tower at Kandahar Airfield.

the game, we adapt and overcome; ultimately, we will win," he continued. "It may be a long game, but we will get our ring. We'll stomp out terrorism and won't accept anything less."

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lineus Davis, engineering assistant, and Airman 1st Class Jason Brooks, electrical systems apprentice, both deployed from Pope AFB, said they've enjoyed their tour of duty at Kandahar.

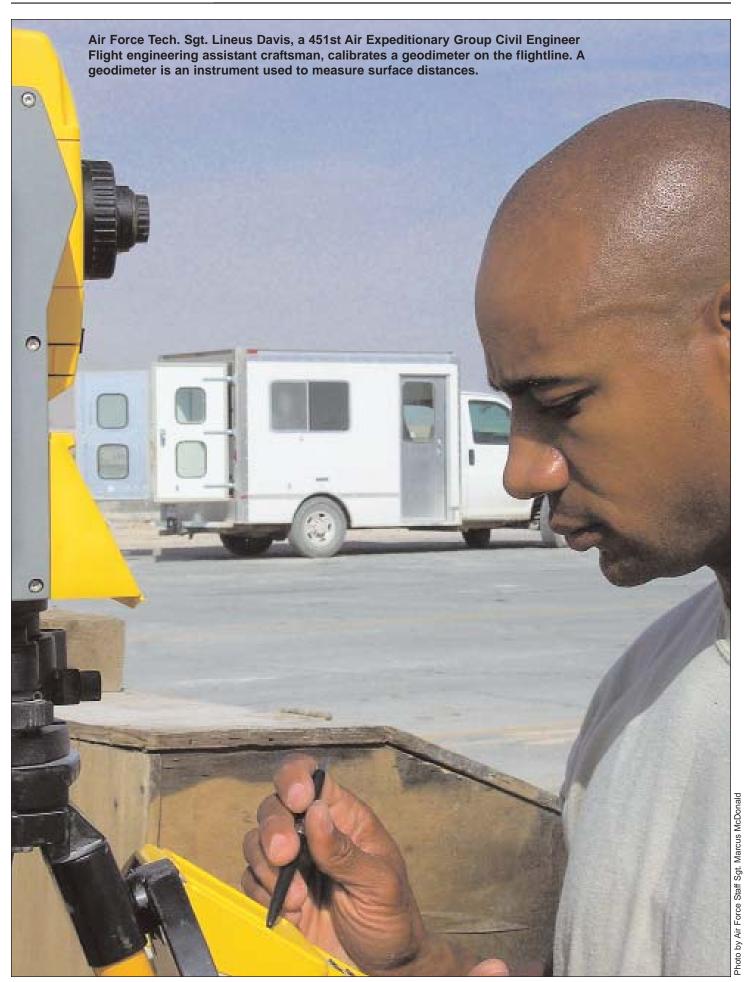
"It's an honor to serve alongside the men and women of the greatest military in the world to help prevent any reoccurrences of what happened on Sept. 11, 2001," said Davis, a native of Wilmington, N.C. "This deployment has offered me some very invaluable opportunities to meet and work alongside people who have had a profound impact on my career and life."

"I've gotten a chance to learn about my contingency-specific job, and I really love it," said Brooks, a native of Harvey, Ill. "I feel like I can't do enough to serve my country in the fight against terrorism.

"I am honored to be a part of the fight and blessed to help in anyway I can," he said.

Since Sept. 1, some of the civil engineers' accomplishments have included:

- * Repairing a major 200-square-foot crater on the runway on their first day on the job.
- * Sealing 68,000-linear feet of cracks on the airfield, minimizing the risk of water infiltration and greatly extending the life of the airfield.
- * Repairing 117 crumbling areas, totaling more than 1,000-square feet.
- * Leading the way for emergency runway repairs totaling 58,000-square feet at a cost of \$270,000.
- * Maintaining 100-percent night-flying operations and eradicating the worst 58,000-square feet of runway making the airfield, that was assessed and failed over two years ago, now 100-percent operational around the clock.

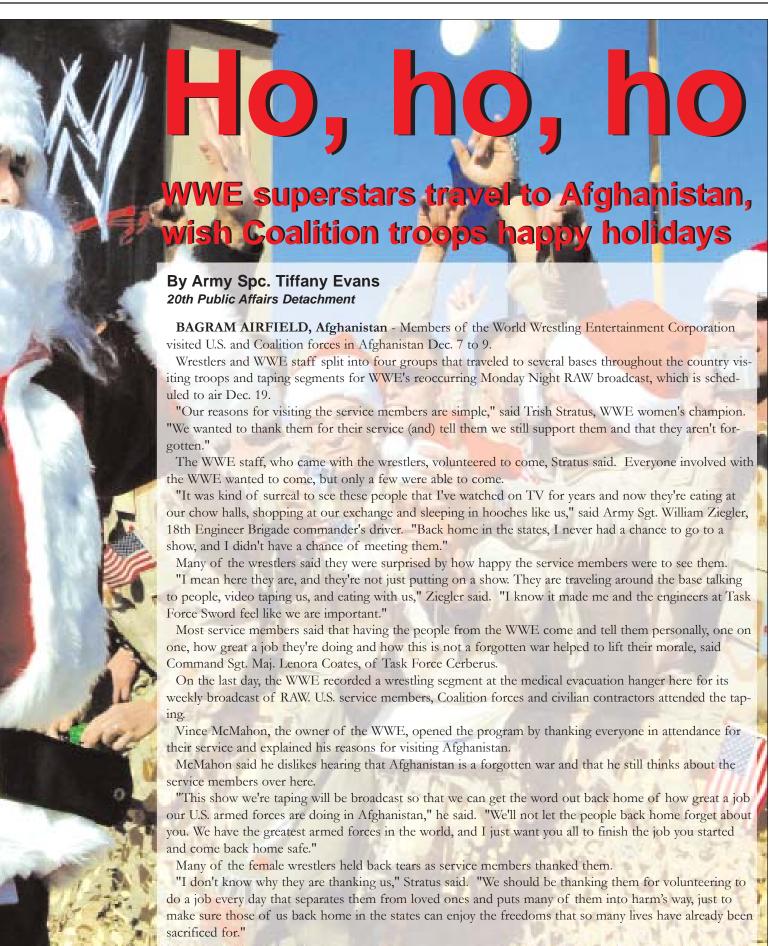


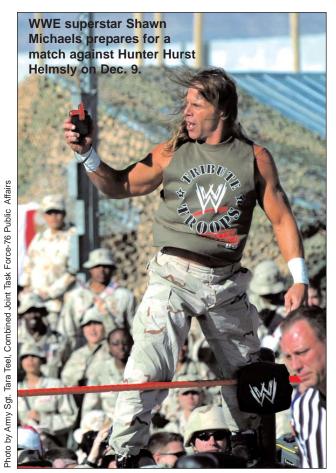
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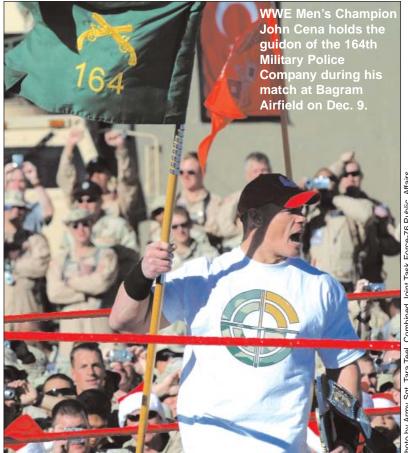


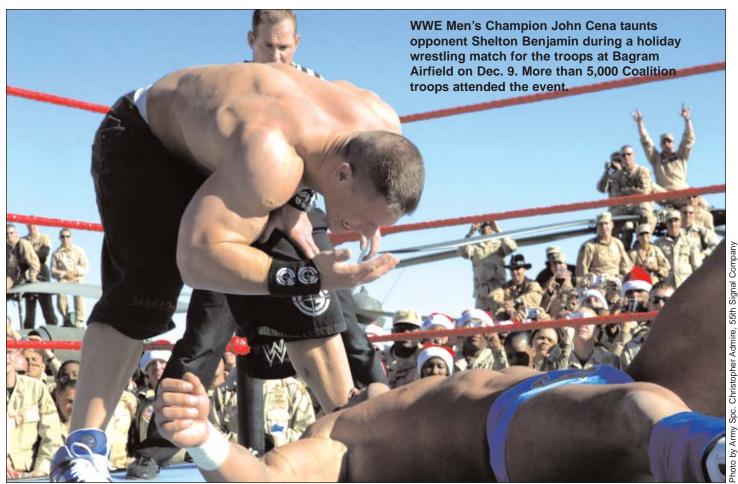
Photo by Army Spc. Christopher Admire, 55th Signal Company

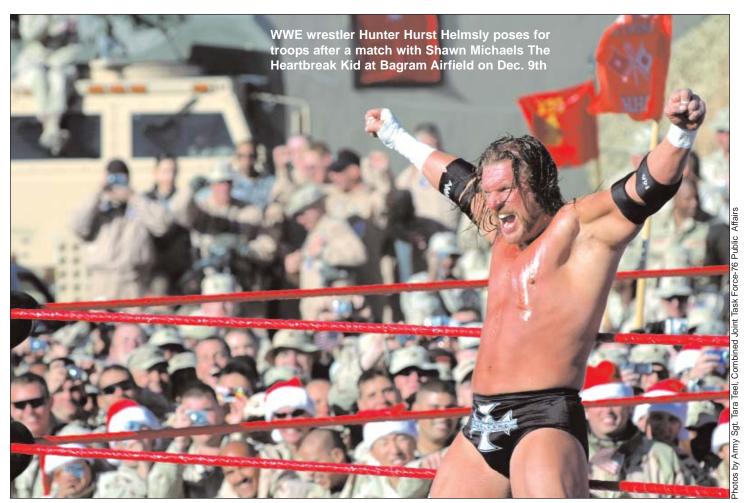
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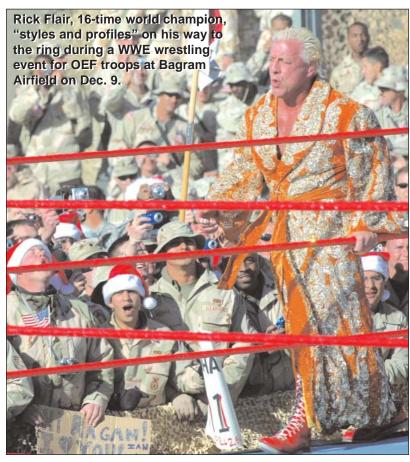


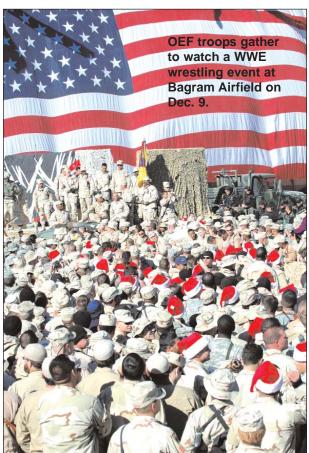














Afghan women discuss the state of the Afghan National Army. Nearly 150 women serve in the ANA as nurses, pilots and other administrative and support positions.

Afghan women's roles increase in Afghan National Army

By Army Lt. Col. Janet Kai Office of Security Cooperation -Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan - Only four years since the Taliban was ousted from power, Afghan women are playing an increasing role in their country's security through an accessions program allowing them to become members of the Afghan National Army.

Currently, there are 147 women serving in the ANA, including two whom were among the first group of 58 pilots recently accessed into the ANA's Air Corps.

Afghan Army Capts. Latifa and Lailoma, who like many Afghans use only one name, are both graduates of the Kabul Air University and have a total of 14 years of military flying experience. They both fly the Mi-8 Hip helicopter and the MiG-17 Fresco,

fixed-wing aircraft.

"When I wear my uniform and I'm flying the helicopter, my only (goals are) to help the people of Afghanistan and establish peace and security. I am proud to serve my country," Lailoma said.

The accessions program enables the nomination of qualified women for vacant, authorized ANA positions. A board consisting of officials from the Ministry of Defense, the ANA general staff, and the office of the chief of personnel reviews and determines the eligibility of each woman based on age, education and military experience from prior service in the Afghan Militia Forces.

After the accessions board reviews and approves the selection of nominees, the nominations are sent to the defense minister for final approval.

As the number of female officers in

the ANA steadily increases, so too does the number of female noncommissioned officers. This is the result of a special accessions program that allows both men and women who were not previously nominated for specific positions to volunteer for service as an NCO. Today, women are serving in medical, logistics and communications positions as a result of this program.

Women undergo the same accessions process that is used for men. Both genders are intermixed on nomination lists and selection boards don't take any special note if a person being considered for a position is a woman. However, since women previously were limited to serving in medical, administrative and support positions and professions, they are generally more qualified for, and are usually nominated to, similar positions in the ANA. Most

See Women, page 13



Jirga center serves as hub for Parwan

By Army Pfc. Vincent Fusco 20th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - The hub of Afghan and Coalition relations in Parwan Province now rests on the outer edge of Bagram Airfield. Facilities Engineer Team-12, Kellogg, Brown and Root, and local contractors built the Jirga Conference Center.

"We've been involved in construction before at home," said Army Master Sgt. Michael Callahan, the Jirga project manager with FET-12, 416th Engineering Command, a Reserve unit based in Fort Worth, Texas. "We did this sort of thing when we were in Kosovo (in 2002)."

The Combined Joint Task Force 76 commander wanted a place for local dignitaries to meet in the standard of Afghan tradition, said Army Lt. Col. Joseph Ebert, FET-12 commander, a Pipe Creek, Texas native, describing the compound that houses a conference center, a mosque, and a courtyard with grass and a rose garden.

Since the 100-day project finished in September, the Jirga Conference Center has been host to police chiefs, military leaders, district attorneys and governors from Parwan Province and the surrounding area, Ebert said.

"I think that if we have meetings with the local leaders in a nonmilitaristic, traditional environment, they'll be more open to discuss things freely," he said.

The 2,625 square foot conference center features a full kitchen, central heating and air conditioning, restrooms for men and women, and a large conference area furnished with locally produced furniture and antiques.

Local contractors laid out the floor and walls of the conference center. They were assisted by KBR contractors, who furbished the walls and ceiling, wood trim, baseboards, windowsills and corners.

"It was a fun project because we used different methods to get it done," Ebert said. "Everyone had to come together to know the final outcome and work their expertise."

The nearby mosque was in no condition to be used and was also renovated by FET-12, KBR and local contractors, Callahan said.

"We typically don't work with mosques," said Ebert. "The Afghan contractors had the sensibility to renovate it properly."

Besides pouring 2 inches of

cement over the cracked floor, the team brought electricity and water into the mosque, Callahan said. Plaster and windows were replaced, and the walls and ceiling were repainted.

"We tried to keep the original color scheme in the mosque," he said. "It turned out quite nice."

The project gave the local contractors a chance to learn more practical building methods from FET-12 and KBR, such as how to reinforce brick walls and install attic ventilation.

"When you get into this stuff with (local) contractors, you get to teach them so many things," Callahan said.

The soil within the compound was found inadequate to lay foundations upon, or support a garden or grass at the beginning of the project, he said. The 652nd Engineer Detachment from the Virgin Islands National Guard was brought in to prepare the site.

"Usually construction projects take a long time," Ebert said. "(The 652nd) is like our quick reaction force. They deploy with their Bobcats and graters and get the job done quickly."

While preparing the soil for the garden, a hand grenade and two missile pods from a Soviet MiG were found, Callahan said. The project was halted to safely remove them from the compound, and none of the devices turned out to be dangerous.

When the soil was ready, sod was laid down and a well was dug to irrigate the garden. The well maintains the two apple trees and 80 rose bushes there.

"This is a totally different project because it's not a standard U.S. Army project," Ebert said. "We typically don't build rose gardens."

The contractor responsible for the garden is expected to bring in 80 more bushes and 40 more trees for shade along the surrounding wall, an Afghan building standard.

In all, the Jirga project helped give those involved with the construction a new understanding and respect for Afghan culture, Ebert said.

It gave everyone a chance to learn about what Afghan people expected from a facility such as this, he said.

"Everything in a combat zone doesn't have to be bare bones," he said. "You can make some nice things if you take your time and plan it accordingly."

"Usually the projects we do are simpler," Callahan said. "You want to be able to look at something when you're done and think, 'Wow, that came out nice.'"

Air Force releases new mission statement

By Air Force Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON - The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

"Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges," Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. "Our mission is our guiding compass, and it must be clearer than ever before."

The mission statement defines the "where and what" the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver

sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests - to fly and fight in air, space, and cyberspace.

The statement includes two new concepts, "sovereign options" and "cyberspace," which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

"Our task is to provide the National Command Authority and the combatant commanders with an array of options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy's defenses," they said. "With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world."

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

"We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to



Airman Herbert Hall prepares to participate in a basic military training graduation parade. The parade marked the end of the six-week training period for about 750 of the Air Force's newest Airmen.

cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can't be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures," Wynne said. "The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world, and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent."

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman's calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

"If we can decisively and consistently dominate our assigned commons, then we will deter countless conflicts," they said. "If our enemies are foolish and underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight and destroy them."

Using past airpower pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, "Our new mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do."

From Women, page 12

positions in which women serve are located in the Kabul area.

The ANA is not recruiting women for service as entrylevel soldiers. The current priority for creating new soldiers is for men to serve in combat and combat-support units. Eventually, training women in basic military skills will require additional resources and the establishment of facilities and programs.

"In principle, we concur with women serving in the ANA. But the service of women must be discussed and planned to determine the career fields and branches in which they may serve based on Afghan culture and norms," said Afghan Army Maj. Gen. Homayun Fawzi, the assistant Minister of Defense for Personnel and Education.

According to U.S. Army Col. George Shull, director of the Defense Reform Directorate's Human Resources Division at the Office of Security Cooperation - Afghanistan, "In the future, the Afghan Ministry of Defense has the potential to become a champion for organizational changes necessary for recruiting and employing women in work which is compatible with religious beliefs."

Last month, the ANA's Medical Command received an additional 43 personnel - all of them women.

The recently accessed 32 officers and 11 NCOs are slotted for duties in a variety of locations, including three regional,

100-bed ANA hospitals, the medical academy and the hospital annex in Kabul.

Two of the ANA's training institutions, the National Military Academy of Afghanistan and the Air Corps Flight School, currently permit attendance by men only.

"Hopefully, in the near future, women will be allowed to apply and compete for positions in these institutions which will open more opportunities for education, training and career development," Latifa said.

Latifa, who was the honor graduate at Kabul Air University, said she is honored to serve Afghanistan and considers it her duty. She supports more women entering the ANA.

"If we want change, it can happen," Latifa said. "Part of my responsibility is to make the path clear for the future and for women who have the desire to become pilots in the ANA."

Afghan Army Lt. Col. Noria, the director of family support programs at the ANA general staff's Religious and Cultural Affairs directorate, agrees that women can contribute to the ANA.

"Women in the ANA are creative, committed and intelligent," she said.

"They are important and qualitative to teamwork, which is essential to mission success," Noria said.



Army Materiel Command (Forward) commanding general, Brig. Gen. Raymond Mason, left, visits with logistics personnel at Bagram Airfield on Dec. 12. Mason is also the G4 (Logistics) for Coalition Forces Land Component Command.



Army Brig. Gen. Raymond Mason, commander of Army Materiel Command, speaks with a civilian contractor during his visit to Bagram Airfield on Dec. 12.

Army Materiel Command general assesses operation

By Army Spc. Christopher Admire 55th Signal Company

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -

Army Brig. Gen. Raymond Mason visited Bagram Airfield on Dec. 11 to 14th.

During his visit, Mason,the Army Materiel Command (Forward) commanding general and G4 (Logisitcs) for Coalition Forces Land Component Command, spoke military and civilian personnel about the state of Bagram's supplies.

Mason was given presentations about the state of operations for Operation Enduring Freedom.

